



The European School Survey Project on Alcohol and Other Drugs

## Application form for use of the ESPAD 07 Database

**Date:** 16th November 2010

**Person responsible for the dataset<sup>1)</sup>**

Name: Salme Ahlström

Institution: THL (National Institute for Health and Welfare)

Country: Finland

**List of authors (preliminary):**

Kirsimarja Raitasalo, other members of the "Risk group"

**Working title of the project:**

The effect of absence of same-gender parent on adolescents' drinking habits and depressive symptoms

**Abstract:** (Please describe objectives, methods and specify the research question(s), maximum 250 words.)

According to previous research we know that adolescents living in a two-parent family use less alcohol and have less depressive symptoms than adolescents who live in a single-parent family. This is also confirmed in our data. It is also commonly acknowledged that the children's identification with the same-sex parent is a prerequisite for healthy emotional development. Researchers have believed for long that children fare better living with a same-sex parent. Aim. The aim of this research is to study how the absence of same-gender parent affects adolescents' drinking habits and depressive symptoms. It is also studied what is the effect of peers' drinking and parental control on this relationship. Data and analyses. The data for this study comes from the Espad data gathered in 2007 in 35 European countries. The analyses are performed separately for both genders in order to see whether the effect is different between boys and girls. Preliminary results. According to the Finnish Espad data, girls who live with a same-gender single-parent are more often abstainers and drink less often to intoxication than those who live with an opposite-sex single-parent. No significant differences can be found among boys. The situation is contrary when looking at the depression scores: both girls and boys who live with an opposite-gender parent have a smaller depression score than those who live with a same-gender parent.

**Planned type of publication:**  Paper/article  Report  PhD  
 Other, which:

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<sup>1)</sup> This can only be a Principal Investigator or a Chair of an ESPAD Thematic group. When the application is approved the Principal Investigator/Chair of a Thematic group has to sign an agreement that the delivered copy of the 07 Database only will be used for the applied project and that the database will be handled according to the rules in the document "Rules for the use of ESPAD databases".

**Variables to be included in the analysis:**

k11a, k11b, k11c, k13, k17, k19a-f, k34b-c, k37, k38, k39, k40\_1-10, k41a-b, k42a-f, k43, k45a-f, k56\_9, k56\_11

**Countries to be included in the analysis:**

- All accessible countries (Level 2)
- A more limited number of countries, namely:

To have the application reviewed by the Application Committee please e-mail this document to:  
[bjorn.hibell@can.se](mailto:bjorn.hibell@can.se)